

REMARKS

New dependent claims 13 to 19 have been added to recite types and species of the liquid crystalline material used in the present invention. The new claims are supported by the disclosure in the specification at pages 3 and 4 and the working example.

The rejection of claims 1 to 12 under 35 USC 102/103 as anticipated by or obvious over Closs et al. '770, particularly if applied to new claims 13 to 19, is respectfully traversed.

The reference discloses various 2-substituted benzotriazoles and their use as photoconductors or electrophotographic recording materials but the reference, with respect, does not teach or suggest the claimed information recording medium containing a liquid crystal material permitting charge transport properties to be varied according to a phase transfer between a plurality of stable liquid crystal phases of the liquid crystal and/or a history of the phase transfer, thereby realizing multi-valued information recording or analog information recording.

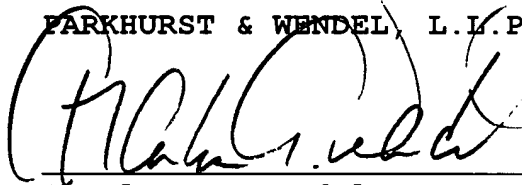
The Examiner's detailed discussion of the claims and the reference is noted with appreciation. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that the reference does not lead the person of ordinary in the art to the invention as claimed.

The Examiner is thanked for acknowledging receipt of the certified copy of applicants' Japanese priority document and for listing the references provided in an Information Disclosure Statement.

Reconsideration of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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